Contact: Officer Al Ballew Date: August 25, 2001 Release No. 01-119

NEWS RELEASE

DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED ENFORCEMENT OF NEW TEXAS LAW

At 12:01 am, September 1, 2001, several new traffic laws will take effect in the State of Texas. Particularly, *House Bill 63* increases the driver license suspension period for a person who, if arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, refuses to take the breath test or fails the breath test. The law also requires that the arresting officer confiscate the person's driver license on the spot.

In compliance with the new law, San Antonio Police will begin enforcing this law on September 1, 2001. San Antonio Police officers arresting persons for Driving While Intoxicated and who refuse to take the breath test, will immediately confiscate that persons driver license and return the license to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

<u>Driving While Intoxicated is a very serious offense</u>. The San Antonio Police Department strictly enforces these laws with zero tolerance for intoxicated drivers. Be advised, your license will be taken if you are arrested for D.W.I. and refuse a breath test.

